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Gateway Gazette



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Spring 2005

"Education Is Critical To Our People": A Feature On Mark Garth Othneil Wilson

Mark Garth is the Interim Director of Career and Transfer Services, but to the students of Roxbury Community College he is like a surrogate father. He represents an alternative to the curt and at times, downright rude service that students are sometimes asked to accept at this institution. At a time when the college is trying to portray an exciting new image, this man has always provided outstanding service. There is little wonder that he was voted administrator of the year for 2004 by a grateful student body. "Mark is an exemplary staff member," remarks Stephanie Janey, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, who has undertaken the task of revamping the school's image. "He is hardworking, a true professional and a joy to have on my staff."

Mark was born in Kansas City, Kansas, and has lived in Boston for over twenty years. He has held the position of Interim Direc-

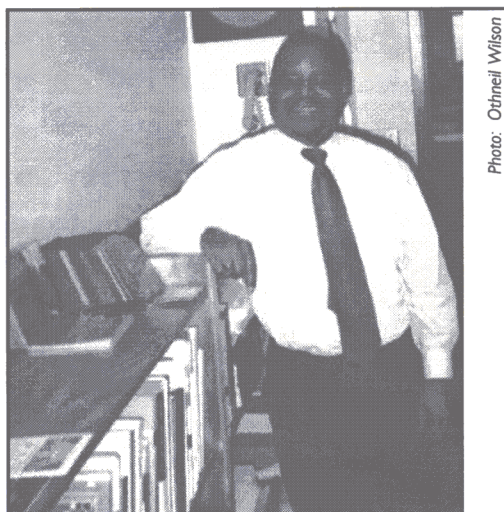


Photo: Othneil Wilson

The reigning Administrator of the Year.

tor for three years. He describes his job functions as managing the transfer and career services at

RCC and assisting students in making informed career and transfer decisions. It's not as simple as it sounds, though he does make it look that way. "It's an honor I didn't expect," he says of being named Administrator of the Year. "I appreciate the confidence that the RCC students have placed in me by honoring me. I am truly humbled." No need to be, Mark – it's nothing more than what you deserve.

Mark obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in French Language and Literature from Rutgers University and a Master of Arts degree in the same discipline from Purdue University. He has also pursued Doctoral Studies in Comparative Literature from Purdue. He has a great interest in black French writers and the Harlem Renaissance. He has lived in New York, Chicago and such exotic places as Paris and Amsterdam. He says that

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Getting Credit For Knowledge I Already Have Valerie Moise

Wouldn't you like to get college credit for classes that you've already taken, or work or life experiences that you have? Do you ever feel bored and just not stimulated sitting in class, simply because you already know the material? If so,

CLEP may be right for you! CLEP is the College Level Examination Program, which allows students to receive credits for information that they already know.

CLEP was developed to allow students

the opportunity to demonstrate prior knowledge and to earn credits for that knowledge. Whether it has been gained through course work, independent study, special interests or professional development, why not

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Dear Readers,

Are you creative? Do you have good written English, computer and people skills? Do you want to beef up your résumé or transfer application with an impressive and exciting extracurricular activity? Can you commit to five hours a week, and more at deadlines, to provide an invaluable service to your fellow students?

Starting in the fall of 2005, *Gateway Gazette* will need a new editor. You must be planning on attending RCC both semesters next year. We will train you. If you are interested, please email rccnews@roxbury.edu, or stop by the Writing Center for more information. We are also looking for staff members for the upcoming academic year. Help us keep this new tradition alive!

To offer feedback on this issue or get involved with the next, email

rccnews@roxbury.edu.

Looking forward to working with you,

Ann Marie McCarrick

Upcoming Events for Students

- **April 18th:** There's no school! It's Patriots Day.
- **April 20th:** Dress Rehearsal for the Talent Show: 6-10 in the Media Arts Building.
- **April 21st:** First Annual Talent Show, produced by SGA. Starts at 7 in the Media Arts Building. For more information, or to audition, call SGA at 617-427-0060 x5003, or visit the SGA office in 4-319 on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 11:30 to 12:30.
- **April 22nd:** Interested in representing your fellow students by being elected to the Student Government? Today is the last day to apply. For more information, talk to Ms. Clark in Student Activities, 4-317.
- **May 3rd:** Student Forum. All prospective SGA candidates will publicly discuss their platforms in the Cafeteria at 11:30 AM.
- **May 4th and 5th:** Student Government Elections. Register for an RCC student email to vote online! To find out how to get a free email, see page 13.
- **May 10th:** SGA Barbecue between buildings. Cast your ballots for the faculty and staff members of the year!
 - **May 13th:** Last day of school for day students.
 - **May 14th:** Last day of school for evening students.
 - **May 16th—19th:** Final Exams.
- **May 24th:** Annual "Boat Ride." Tickets are \$30 for individuals and \$50 for couples. Spend the evening cruising around the Boston Harbor and enjoying food and dancing. All ages, including children. Details at Student Activities.
- **June 2nd:** The Pinning Ceremony for graduating RNs takes place at 7 PM in the Media Arts Building.
- **June 3rd:** Congratulations, RCC Class of 2005! Graduation takes place at 4 PM in the Reggie Lewis Center.
- **Last Week of May—First Week of June:** Drive-in movie in the RCC parking lot. The date is still undecided; stay tuned for more details.

Interview with Emmanuel Lafalaise, SGA President Jermaine Reese

Big Business – So, I chose you to be the first person in *Big Business* – that's my new column – it's going to be in the paper. I chose you because you're a strong person and you hold a lot of ground here. I just want to talk to you because people like me can look at you and be inspired by you here at RCC.

Emmanuel Lafalaise – Wow, thank you, that's a compliment.

BB – As the president, what have you accomplished for yourself and for the students?

EL – First of all, I'm a student myself. Anytime I do something, I do it for the students. And it's not what I accomplished, but my government. The work I do, we do it. I couldn't do anything without the help of the reps, the vice president and everybody: Ms. Clark, our advisor, or any faculty members. Even the *Gateway Gazette*.

Last semester, we were able to do the food drive. It didn't happen the way we wanted it to, but to me it's an accomplishment. Why? Because we were able to do one thing that was in our agenda for last semester. We did it, we had food for people in the school – you remember, we had the Thanksgiving dinner; everybody could come to eat for free. The students, they came, I came and I ate as well, the President of the school came; to me, it's an accomplishment. And now we're working on upcoming events: we have the talent search that's going on right now. We think it's going to be a hit.

BB – Are you in it?

EL – Yeah, I'm in it. I didn't audition myself yet, but I still have time.

BB – Well, here's a compliment from me to you: you're doing a good job. I know how you sat on the student government – I'm one of the student reps, I helped out – and you're doing a good job.

EL – Thank you. Once again, to be honest with you, if any member of SGA doesn't look good, I don't look good. So you can compliment me and that goes to every member, to every single member of SGA. And that means it goes straight back to you. You really did a good job.

BB – Yep! Thank you. What else have you done at RCC? What's your background? What's your major?

EL – When I first started here, I just started taking classes. But I was fortunate enough to talk to Dr. Souliy wan-N'Tani,



Big Business

With Jermaine Reese,
SGA Rep and
Presidential Candidate

my academic advisor, and he put me into the Criminal Justice program. He also told me about the Criminal Justice club, and I got involved. That was, like, the second semester I was here, in 2003. I was the vice president of the club for maybe one month or two months; after two months, I became the president of the club. One thing we did, we brought a police officer here to talk to the students, to the criminal justice club members. Not only them – other people had the chance to come that day and they were very satisfied. We are working on a program to try to take them to a prison now.

BB – Taking the students to the prison?

EL – Yeah, the Criminal Justice club members. And while I was the president of that club, I was a rep for SGA; that was in 2004. Right after the SGA government left last year, I ran for president, and I won, so I'm now the president of the student government and also a member of the Honors Society. I'm also a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

BB – How long have you been in that Honors Society?

EL – I petitioned last semester, and I found out that I was a member when I received a letter from the All American Collegiate Academy. They said I was eligible to get a scholarship; it's a national award. They have a yearbook. Hopefully in one or two months, I'll be able to have my book. The first page will have my picture on it and my biography, and all the other United States outstanding students for 2005 will be in there.

BB – Oh, wow. That's huge! Good job.

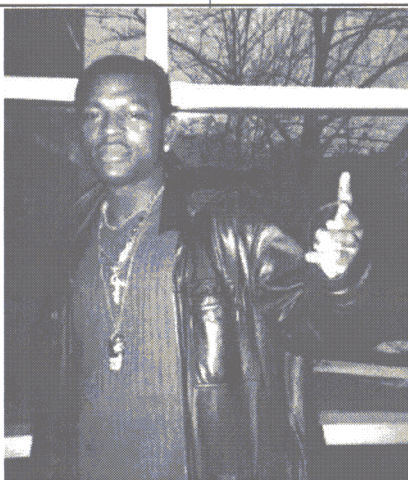
EL – (Laughs) Thanks.

BB – You say you plan on going to another four-year institution. What schools are you looking for?

EL – You know, it's funny because my first two choices are not in Massachusetts. I sent my first application to University of Miami, and my second one goes to Florida International University. Also Boston College, Boston University and UMass-Amherst. I checked the programs and they have good political science major programs, and they also have good law schools. So once I have my master's in political science, I will be able to go for the JD (Juris Doctorate). So that's why I chose those schools.

BB – So, you want to become a lawyer, or-?

EL – Yes. A defense lawyer.



Our fearless leader.

(Continued on page 4)

(BIG BUSINESS, Continued from page 3)

BB – Wow. What motivated you to become a lawyer?

EL – I was raised in Haiti. I spent the first twenty years of my life back there. To be honest with you, having a doctorate is what everybody would like to have. And the other thing is that I'm very interested in politics, so I said to myself, "If I have a degree in political science, and I've been doing school politics and community politics, then once I run for a government office, there's nothing to stop me!" If I know people and I have the degree, then who's going to stop me? So I'll try to get the highest degree, and I'll beat them with my background. And the trial lawyer: when I came to this country I had an internship at the courthouse; I saw so many people that were being underrepresented. If I'm a lawyer, I will try to defend everybody, not dependent on the money they have, but based on their needs. If you need a lawyer, I'll talk for you.

BB – If you could choose anybody from the past in big court cases, who would you have liked to represent?

EL – You know, I always try to be on the opposite side of the government. Even though I'm trying to be a member of the Haitian or US government, when I'm in the courthouse I want to be against them. They're trying to put people in jail and I want people to be outside. You cannot help your family when you are inside! I'm not saying if you do something wrong you don't deserve to be punished. But you need to have the right punishment.

BB – So those are your future goals and the things you look forward to... Is there anything bigger than education that you're looking forward to? That you're inspired to do? That you'd like people to know?

EL – Once I have my first degree, I will definitely work for the United Nations. I look forward to doing that. Maybe I will become an ambassador for my country. Maybe the prime minister, or why not the president?

BB – President again, huh? You're the president everywhere nowadays!

EL – (Laughs) Yeah, why not?

BB – What would you like people to know about you?

EL – I want RCC students to know that they are my first audience. I would like everybody to know who I am and what I am doing. If you were doing something right, then why wouldn't you want everyone to know it? Everyone can find something from what I say or what I do.

BB – What do you do on your days off then? Besides homework?

EL – (Laughs) I wouldn't say I really have days off. I work full time, and come to school full time. I come to school five days a week, and work five days a week. That's like, twelve days a week! I go straight from school to work.

BB – So you're busy. You're a busy person.

EL – Yeah, I'm busy.

BB – Now, before this interview, we had previously spoken... would you like to share your entrepreneurial ideas?

EL – My business?

BB – Yeah, your business. Would you like to tell *Big Business* about your business?

EL – You know, I try to keep a low profile on what I do. But here's what it is: back in Haiti, my brothers – they're not the heads of the community but they work in the community, working with people. I'm trying to do a computer school. I'm trying to get things for the people, some entertainment, education and especially communication. They need to talk to their families back in Haiti and Haitians need to talk to their families here. I think that's a good business to do. But I'm trying to see if I can find a cheap way so that people can talk to their families here. Maybe I will make a profit out of it.

BB – Mmm-hmm... that's what a business is for!

EL – But, like I told you at the beginning: I just want everyone to be happy. Every time someone talks to their friends or family, they want to talk to them for a long time. I will be happy if they're happy, so whatever profit I make – that's part of my profit too!

BB – What are you going to do with that profit? You're going to share some with me, right?

EL – Yeah, I'll share my happiness with you! (Laughs) I'm looking for these people to be happy, so that I can be happy. So that's what's up with the business.

BB – We're coming to a wrap-up. Is there anything else you'd like to comment on in *Big Business*?

EL – My dear friends at RCC, I just want you to know that everything we are doing as SGA members, we're doing it for the students. We have this talent show going on. We want everybody to come. Talk to SGA members or come to Student Activities for info. It's for RCC students; it's for everybody. Come out and work with us so that on April 21st we can have a big show.

BB – Okay, it's your time – any shout-outs? This is *Big Business*; this is your chance!

EL – I just want to say thank you to everybody: to the students who voted for me, to everyone who has been supporting me and to the Gazette, because you guys are definitely making me known around the school. I want to send special thanks to Ms. Clark; she's been very supportive to me and to SGA. Souliy is the best, and Chima Nzenwa; they have been so supportive. Everyone has been so good to me.

BB – Thanks, Emmanuel.

EL – Thank you. I look forward to working with you again.

Jermaine Reese, student government representative, dreams of becoming an entrepreneur and starting up several business enterprises. He plans to run for SGA president for the 2005-2006 academic year. His column, Big Business, is looking for the next big star. If you're doing big things, or want to talk about big things, let Big Business make it happen! If you want to be featured in an upcoming Big Business article, email him at sgarep@roxbury.edu.

Bookstore Under New Management

The RCC Bookstore has opened this semester under new management. Store Supervisor Valerie Boarnwell says that she has basically been going through the learning curve as far as the needs of students are concerned. However, she has been getting mostly positive feedback from both students and faculty members, which she feels is the result of trying as hard as possible to provide good customer service. Students can feel free to come straight to her if they have any problems regarding books. The bookstore is open Monday to Thursday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Fridays.

-Othneil Wilson

Malcolm X Tribute

February 21, 1965: the day the black community lost a great leader, Malcolm X, by an act of uncalled-for violence. In his autobiography, he foretold that he would die brutally; he was right. Those whose lives he affected mourned him for years.

On February 21, 2005, 40 years after his passing, Roxbury Community College paid tribute to the African American leader at an event that was held in the Student Center. The cold, snowy day did not stop the cafeteria from filling with a diverse crowd, ranging from those individuals who knew Malcolm X personally when he lived in Boston to the young children who will strive to be just like him in the future.

The SGA of RCC and The Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. Committee, led by professor Tony Van Der Meer, organized the event. The tribute began with a song by Curtis King, entitled "Makes Waves". Then Professor Van Der Meer greeted everyone and opened the tribute with words of inspiration and enlightenment, giving honor and recognition to both Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. The event also raised more than \$200 in donations. A local vendor of African American products matched the donations and displayed their items for potential buyers.

The event brought many great speakers who touched on what Malcolm X's work was about. Speakers such as state representatives Chuck Turner and Gloria Fox declared that the city must come together and stand up for what is just. The tribute also featured Askia Toure, Sarah Ann Shaw, Mel Miller and many more. At the conclusion The Foundation delivered a spoken word performance. The event was a blessing for those who took time from their busy schedules. When citizens come together to make a difference and look at one another as brothers and sisters instead of strangers, something wonderful happens in the city of Boston.

-Daniel Noel

Easier Registration Process

Before this past registration period, if you were to ask a student what was the worst part of registration at RCC, you probably would've gotten a list. Many of us remember the trials and tribulations that we've had to go through just to register for classes, for example, enduring long lines and wait times in the congested cafeteria only to find out that the line you've been standing in is not the registration, but the business office line!

However this semester, to many of the staff and students' surprise and pleasure, the registration process improved a great deal. An anonymous student said, "Registration this semester was totally improved. I went in with some lunch and a book to read expecting to stay there all day, but I was in and out in under 30 minutes. The school did a wonderful job." Another student agreed: "Service was a lot faster than previous years, the (designated) offices were more spread out, and people just seemed more cool and calm."

This is a great step for the RCC community. The student body knows that the improvements that have been made have been in the works for some time. We would like the RCC staff to know that these changes are greatly appreciated.

-Valerie Moise

Gazing
Through
the
Gateway

RCC Elevators

Students are expressing growing concerns regarding the state of elevators at RCC. Several students have noticed that the permits to operate the elevators have been expired since 2003. It is clearly stated that application for renewal of the permit should be 60 days prior to the expiration of the current permit, but it seems the renewal has been neglected for quite some time now.

When the elevators stop on different floors, they tend to jump before stopping. Although it is a fact that all elevators make a slight bump when stopping, the force of these elevators' jump is quite alarming. It makes you even more nervous when you realize that cables suspend the elevators. On different occasions, students experienced the elevators going up without the doors closing. This makes people even more nervous.

Usually used for their convenience and sometimes out of laziness, these elevators are also very important for handicapped students and faculty and transportation of equipment. The school cannot regulate the number of people using these elevators at a given time, especially during "rush hour" when students need to go to their next classes in a hurry. What the school can do is increase the degree of maintenance applied to these elevators. They should also encourage users to heed the maximum load capacity warning. Even though there haven't been any accidents regarding the elevators, it is always better to be safe than sorry.

-Barry Carias

Rally The Students: Veterans For Peace Speak At RCC

Greg Daniel

In an effort to get more college students politically active in the protest against the Iraqi war, the Veterans For Peace sent one of their representatives, Michael Dathe, to Roxbury Community College last November to talk with students about why they feel the war should end. Veterans For Peace is an activist group comprised of former members of the armed forces that promotes war as a defensive tactic, rather than an offensive assault. The organization believes that the war in Iraq is a war over oil, not a war on terror or a war to free the Iraqi people.

"If you want to stop the war in Iraq, take the profit out of it," said Dathe, a Vietnam Navy veteran. "Let CEOs and the executive officers, the manufacturers that are making the uniforms, the industrialists who are manufacturing the M-1 tanks and the H-10 attack-war-pods, the bankers who are financing it all – let them make no more than the lowest paid soldier, who will be shot at in Iraq, and the war will end tomorrow." Dathe alleged that the US government cares more about controlling the reported 200 billion barrels of oil – worth an estimated \$8-10 trillion – contained beneath Iraq's arid soil, than bringing democracy to the nation once ruled by ruthless dictator Saddam Hussein.

Joining Dathe was a Boston Public School teacher/activist, Al Leisinger, who had a friend that died in the Vietnam War. Beyond their protests against the Iraqi war, the two guest speakers denounced America's foreign policy as a whole, especially with regards to invasions of enemy nations. They made many accusations about the atrocities that US soldiers – including recent Presidential candidate John Kerry – were ordered to carry out against the Vietnamese people during Vietnam. "Our names came to the top of the [Draft Board] list; we went where we were told to go and we did what we were told to do and I wish I can take it

back, but I can't," Dathe confessed in a soft, somber voice. "And I don't want any of you in that position." They alleged that these orders were given so often that soldiers would begin turning their guns on their commanding officers in protest.

These acts of mutiny, called "fragging," were supposedly very common during Vietnam – over ten thousand reported cases. "Basically soldiers were unwilling to fight," remarked Leisinger. "So many soldiers were opposed to the war, they had to be pulled out. That's what they called the 'Vietnam Syndrome,' so let's induce the 'Vietnam Syndrome' in Iraq." Leisinger went on to

be their undoing."

But while promoting a recall of our troops, they posed no real solution that would end the chaos that we caused in the Middle East. They admitted themselves that the damage we caused to the Iraqi infrastructure and the anarchy which exists in place of the former dictatorship, along with the \$200 billion we've invested so far is not something from which we can simply turn around and walk away.

One thing that became painfully obvious was that the outspoken audience member wasn't the only member of the communist party present at the event. In fact, it appeared, the guest speakers themselves, as well as the VFP, are all communists. They brought many anti-war flyers as well as pro-communist leaflets, including a communist newspaper. Though their speeches didn't focus on communist ideologies, it was an interesting footnote that needs to be mentioned.

Moreover, beyond their repetitive "bring home the troops" chant, they offered little-to-no solutions on how those who want the war to end can change the minds of those who support the war as a part of the war on terror. Though President Bush finally admitted that there was no connection between 9/11 and Iraq, many Americans still believe that "liberating" Iraq will help fight terrorism; the speakers had no counterproposal to convince the people that there are alternatives to fight terrorism effectively. Instead, they responded with historical rhetoric about how America has helped fund terrorism in the past, i.e., the Afghan and Russian War and the Iraq and Iran War, which is true; but they offered no solutions to our current dilemma.

Another point of emphasis at the meeting was the prospect of the government reinstating the Draft. As an

(Continued on page 14)

"If you want to stop the war, take the profit out of it... let the CEOs, the executive officers, the industrialists, the manufacturers and the bankers... let them make no more than the lowest paid soldier who will be shot at in Iraq, and the war will end tomorrow."

clarify any misconceptions that he condones "fragging" by exemplifying the use of newsletters, leaflets, and coffeehouse meetings held by soldiers who were against the war. He reiterated, "There are lots of ways to resist, and we should look for all ways."

One audience member, a self proclaimed communist, suggested that one way to strengthen the resistance against the war is to continue to inform the public that this is a capitalistic war. But while championing the movement towards peace, he admitted, "The US cannot get out of Iraq, because oil is so intrinsically important in this time period in history; and so the [financial] cost of them leaving Iraq would be profoundly huge." Dathe agreed with the gentleman's assessment and added, "They are not going to pull out of Iraq because of that oil, and that is going to

New Group Study Space In Library

In the 1990s, two large sections of the library were sliced off for use by the bookstore and the Honor Society. Now that both the bookstore and Honor Society have relocated to other areas, these spaces have reverted to the library, expanding the first floor by almost 50 percent. The former Honor Society space has become part of the no-talking individual study area next to the book stacks. The old bookstore space, however, is being used for something completely new – group study. Many students have requested a space in the library where they can discuss course materials with classmates without being concerned that they are bother-

ing those doing quiet individual study. Several courses encourage this approach. Until now, the library has lacked a space for these students. Most new libraries have small group study rooms. It is hoped that, in the next year or two, the large group study room can be subdivided into small spaces so that the study groups do not bother each other. In the meantime, to ensure that this space is used for group study, students will sign up to use one of the tables in the room and leave an ID at the circulation desk. The expansion of the first floor of the library also means more seats for students. In fact, the library now meets the seat-

Mark Lawrence, Acting Library Director

ing guidelines from the American Library Association for the first time in over ten years.

Thanks for this important development should go to the RCC faculty, which voted unanimously to recommend to the president the restoration to the library of these areas, the 2004 members of the Learning Resources Committee (Allison Bernard, Mark Lawrence, Veronica McCormack, Patrick Seyon, Nancy Teel & David Updike) who lobbied for this result, Vice President Brenda Mercomes, a strong library supporter, and President Terrence Gomes, who made sure it happened.

Scholarships for RCC Students

As the semester nears its end, RCC students are beginning to look ahead toward next year, whether it's reflecting on which classes to take or figuring out ways to pay for school. Coming up with tuition costs is always stressful, and with the rising prices of books and other educational materials, many college students buckle under the strain of making ends meet. Fortunately, the Roxbury Community College Foundation is here to help. Led by Chairman of the Board Robert A. Williams III, the Foundation's job is to raise funds from private sources for the students and the college. Along with funding specific projects at the college such as distance learning programs and the advising center, the Foundation also allots much of its endowment toward scholarships and awards for students.

Mr. Williams estimates that the Foundation is able to help more than fifty undergraduates each year. There's an opportunity for nearly everybody: there's money for nursing, ESOL and international students, as

well as those who are working full-time. Graduating students who are looking to attend a four-year college can be heartened by the fact that they are eligible for seven different awards; most notably, the Sapers Family Opportunity Award presents

*The deadline for scholarship applications is
Friday, April 1st.
Applications can be picked up
in the Learning Center.*

up to ten grads with \$1000 scholarships and \$1000 low-interest loans. There are also scholarships from each department at RCC. Most scholarships require a 3.0 grade point average; however, there are a few that will reward a student with a 2.5 GPA. The scholarship applications are reviewed by a committee, so a strong essay and recommendation by a faculty member really help to make

Ann Marie McCarrick

someone stand out. With so many chances available to earn extra money for school, Mr. Williams is disappointed when few students apply. "[Last year] we did not have the response that we were satisfied with," he says. "Hopefully, we will have a better response than we did before." He encourages all students who meet the criteria to submit an application.

Mr. Williams is proud of the Foundation's work, and continues to look for ways to increase funds that will benefit the students. A long-term goal of the foundation is to double its endowment to \$3 million. Mr. Williams is a dedicated and generous Chairman who has even offered to donate his own money to the Foundation's efforts by matching all alumni contributions. Though most of the scholarships are small, ranging upward from \$250, Mr. Williams knows that every little bit helps. He is truly committed to RCC students and their futures.

RCC To Undergo Accreditation

Ann Marie McCarrick

From April 3rd through 6th, Roxbury Community College will undergo an intense appraisal, intended to identify the College's strengths, fix its problems and oversee the quality of the education received. This process, called accreditation, takes place every ten years; it is carried out by both the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and RCC itself. Though the assessment is voluntary, an accredited status is very important when it comes to things like obtaining financial aid and getting credits transferred to other universities.

Since its last accreditation ten years ago, RCC has endured some troubled times. Most notably, former College President Grace C. Brown was asked by the state to resign in 2002. Brown and her administration were accused of mismanaging tuition, Pell Grants and other forms of financial aid, resulting in a highly publicized protest by the student body and a vote of "no confidence" by the faculty. When the federal government threatened to suspend all federal financial aid received by RCC, the school nearly had to shut down.

Fortunately, the College was able to persevere through its past hardships. With a dynamic new President, Dr. Terrence Gomes, as well as three new vice presidents, five new deans and several new members on the Board of Trustees, the College community can finally feel confident that their leaders have the best interests of the school and its students in mind. RCC has begun to look beyond merely surviving.

"There are many reasons to be hopeful and optimistic," says Professor Barbara Melnick who, along with Vice President Brenda Mer-

comes, co-chairs the Steering Committee that's leading the school through the accreditation process. The Committee is responsible for assessing RCC as honestly as possible, for the sake of improving conditions at the College and making sure that everyone, including students, faculty and staff, is fully enjoying the RCC experience. According to Professor Melnick, the Steering Committee was able to identify many strengths which were weaknesses just a few years ago. She cites the committed new administration, the improved technology labs, the beautified physical grounds and the library's outreach and workshops as major strong points of the College. However, the Committee is realistic; there is still work to be done, such as improving technological support and communicating academic policies to

"The College community can finally feel confident that their leaders have the best interests of the school and its students in mind."

adjunct professors. The ultimate objective of the accreditation is for RCC to identify its problems and find ways to fix them. Professor Melnick wishes to inform students that there are ways to participate in the process. The NEASC will be visiting the campus from April 3rd through 6th; they will be working with student leaders, speaking to students in the halls and visiting classrooms. Those interested can also read an evaluation of RCC prepared by the Steering Committee; this document is on reserve in the library and will be posted online shortly. Students may also write to the NEASC with their comments about the College (see sidebar).

Accreditation is an important process that will bring about positive change at RCC. "The main goal," says Professor Melnick, "is to bring the college together and start healing." It is finally time for Roxbury Community College to thrive.

Opportunity for Third Party Comments

Roxbury Community College will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit April 3-6, 2005, by a team representing the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education is one of eight accrediting commissions in the United States that provides institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Accreditation is voluntary and applies to the institution as a whole. The Commission, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, accredits approximately 200 institutions in the six-state New England region.

Roxbury Community College has been accredited by the Commission since 1981 and was last reviewed in April 1995. Its accreditation by the New England Association encompasses the entire institution. For the past year and a half, Roxbury Community College has been engaged in a process of self-study, addressing the Commission's Standards for Accreditation. An evaluation team will visit the institution to gather evidence that the self-study is thorough and accurate. The team will recommend to the Commission a continuing status for the institution; following a review process, the Commission itself will take the final action.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the institution to:

*Public Comment on Roxbury Community College
Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
New England Association of
Schools and Colleges
209 Burlington Road
Bedford, MA 01730-1433
E-mail: cihe@neasc.org*

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution. Comments will not be treated as confidential. Written, signed comments must be received by April 6, 2005. The Commission cannot guarantee that comments received after that due date will be considered. Comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments.

The Commission cannot settle disputes between individuals and institutions, whether those involve faculty, students, administrators, or members of other groups. Individuals considering submitting complaints against an affiliated institution should request the separate Policy and Procedures for the Consideration of Complaints Made Against Affiliated Institutions from the Commission office.

-Barbara Melnick

Is It Biblical And Right To Fight If You Are A Christian?

Charity Watkins

Jesus, the Son of God, said, "Love thy enemies..." Has Bush made the appropriate decision? Is he a true representative of the faith for which he claims to speak? In Biblical times, God permitted war because he wanted to get the glory of Israel and to exalt Himself. He wanted people to be obedient to His word and to serve no other God but Him. He wished to punish those who were living, breathing and eating sin. To punish them, God sent Joshua and all the Jews to enter Israel after fleeing Egypt. They got to the city of Jericho; Joshua was told to destroy the city with a sword and kill every living thing in it: Men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys. God had to create chaos to start over and have the city devoted to him. Now God permits wars in order for men to understand, more clearly than they ever have before, what sin really is. Men must bear the consequences of their sins as punishment. God sent His son to die for us; He did not send your sons to die for Bush or oil.

Life is to be lived for the improvement of the soul. Why would a soldier jeopardize his life, soul and Christianity only to have his life cut short at the age of nineteen or twenty-three? Solving problems doesn't mean you have to get revenge. To strip men of their lives is to mentally and

OPINIONS AND EDITORIALS



Charity Watkins,
Editorial Editor

spiritually go against God and his plan. Yes, the Bible is the oracle of God. There were brutal circumstances throughout the Bible and there will be more to come that were prophesized by the interpreters of God. Jesus' crucifixion was a violent death, but there is no reason why you should kill or commit murder - not only is that a sin, but it will also earn you life in prison or even the death penalty. What point is proven when a Christian goes to war and kills? It is human nature for a soldier whose life is in danger to try and save his own life rather than to spare another's. If you live by the sword, then you die by the sword; the same weapon that soldier uses can also be used against him. Defending the nation's precious liberties of equality, freedom and the pursuit of happiness creates difficulties for godly people. This is the problem with being a Christian and going

to war: if you think that you are doing justice and killing the enemy makes you a hero or saves you a seat in heaven, then you are sadly mistaken.

Christ had strong words for his disciples, but He never advocated violence. Wherever there is injustice, there is violence. Matthew 21:12-13 was the only scripture in which Jesus got upset. He cast out those who were disrespecting his father's house by gambling and buying and selling goods in a holy sanctuary. He slapped them with the whip, turned over the moneychangers' table, and said his house shall be called the house of prayer.

There is a spiritual obligation to uphold all that which is holy and just. Our spirit as Christians is about love, peace and non-violence. In times of peace we tend to think lightly of sin, and to hold promising views of human nature. The ultimate cause of war is lust and desire; if you call yourself a Christian than war or anything associated with it should not be your walk of life. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Ephesians 6:12).

Mo' Monkey, Mo' Problems

They're calling us niggers. They're calling us monkeys. They call our sisters bitches and our girlfriends hoes. Most of the time, when they talk about us and the black community, all they show is the negative side. Far too often, they ignore the positive aspects of our culture and paint a picture of which any human being - let alone a black person - would be ashamed. No, I'm not talking about the media, the KKK or right-wing politicians. I'm talking about rappers.



Greg Daniel,
Senior Staff

Too many rappers shun their social responsibilities to the black community for the sake of profits and record sales. It would be hypocritical to target rappers for their violent lyrics, when Hollywood displays graphic violence to children on a scale not

Greg Daniel

seen since the gladiator battles in the Roman Coliseum. But one thing Hollywood hasn't done is glorify and popularize what once were considered racial slurs, and make them not only tolerable, but enticing to hip-hop fans, many of which are children, everywhere.

Let it be known: I love hip-hop. But I'm finding it harder and harder to condone some of the igno-

(Continued on page 10)

(MO' MONKEY, Continued from page 9)

rant and self-destructive ing fed to us and our children have long opposed the idea should be considered role models for children. But when you have fans spending billions of dollars a year on music, when rap has a stronger influence on Hollywood and talk than their own parents, corporations pay athletes (including rappers) millions to promote their products, then to imagine that they even care in the matter. Therefore, we use such words as *ni**a* and gorilla when describing and other black people, in order to leave a lasting mark on the

I know what everyone is saying nowadays: "We changed the meaning of *ni**a* into something negative. Now it's a term of endearment. You believe that, then you think like a *ni**a*. Wait a minute, think about that. Did that compliment or an insult? You rather hear, "You think like a *ni**a*" or "You think like a businessman" or "You think like a *ni**a*?" "You think like a man," or "You think like a *ni**a*?" in mind that "You think like a *ni**a*" at best, a neutral comment over 18 and a male, then you think like a man! How can it be that so many of our parents and grandparents fought and died to get out of America's vocabulary and it spewing from the mouths of our children.

Admittedly, I've seen this revolutionary regression use the N-word more often. It's hard not to; I can't even hear my favorite rapper's lyrics without hearing "ni**a this" or "ni**a that." I remind myself of that word while listening to Hip-Hop is like holding a gun inside a bar.

But not to be outdone, rappers have come up with new ways to undermine our dignity. In this matter, the Civil Rights Movement. Nowadays, our favorite rappers referring to themselves as "gorillas." The first time I heard the term used by a rapper

Mob's 1992 single *and rillas in tha Mist*: "and Magilla, I'm a *lla* ain't a killa. *White*, but my super *ni**a* *g*; played his ass like *ally*, this album is full of nocidal lyrics geared executive-produced by also featured, the controversial tracks such as "il" and "Freedom Got en, the terminology all in the Hip-Hop lingo; rs, it has mounted a an only accelerate our course into mainstream

artists and groups Unit (aka G-Unit), this song "Parking Lot Man ("Run 4 Cover"), ("How Many Guns") in their primate parodies, "If you gotta be a *illa*" in his 1998 song the same album, *Doc's* there is a track called "Out," which is preceded by a bunch of thugs are ts while making mon-time I see brothers irts, I have to wonder ly understand the deat they are making

ld argue that animal d throughout the Hip-ther cultures') dialect, rogatory connotations. od example of this is (or Dog). This word is a arment - that is, when men. The canine spe-rrered to as "Man's Best is presumably from is derived: "That's my s my dawg."

ers tend to use this a battle cry - a way to less and heartless na-of accentuating their "Thug *ni**a*s surround 'a'll; animal instinct, tting clapped on in-bb Deep's "Animal In-e Mob's defense, they tired of living life this but for how long? 'Til

you reach your downfall." Granted, Webster's Dictionary contains a definition for gorilla as meaning "a hoodlum or thug." But considering the similarities between gorilla, monkey and the once commonly used racial slur "porch monkey," shouldn't these artists try to find another way to express their toughness? Besides, by embracing our bestiality, we are simultaneously rejecting our humanity. We are giving in to all of those stereotypes that depict us as marginally intelligent and excessively violent creatures.

And I don't want to hear anybody say, "This is a testament to how we have overcome such hateful words and turned them into something positive." This is a disgrace! It's a slap in the face to all those who *suffered and died* to free us from such ignorance. I am truly embarrassed to hear the rappers who I looked up to growing up dishing out such self-loathing garbage to our youth. I'm ashamed when I catch myself using the N-word around my elders, those who truly understand its meaning. Why even assimilate these words; why not eradicate them once and for all? If you found the noose that was once used to lynch your grandfather, would you put it in a trophy case on your mantle?

I can understand how, between black-on-black crime, gangs and drugs in our communities, one can easily disregard such a seemingly trivial issue. But let's look at it this way: people that commit suicide don't do so on a whim. Teenage girls with eating disorders don't become that way overnight. These types of self-destructive behavior begin in the mind long before they translate into physical actions. I find it hard to believe that people who refer to themselves as apes can honestly say that they have a high self-esteem. And that's where a lot of these problems start - from a lack of self-respect.

So why do we embrace that which was created to destroy us? Have we given up on ourselves? Has the violence that plagues our communities led us to believe we truly are animals? One nickname for the ghetto is the "concrete jungle." When describing our impoverished and oppressive conditions, we often refer to ourselves as "caged animals"

(Continued on page 14)

Boston: City Of Champions

Daniel Noel

Once, long ago, Boston was renowned as a city that knew how to win. Just look at the Fleet Center: along with the 16 championship banners that hang to remind people how dominant the Boston Celtics were, there are numerous legends' numbers which reign from atop the rafters. From legendary players like Bill Russell, Bob Cousy and John Havlicek, to more recent stars such as Robert Parish, Larry Bird and Kevin McHale, the Celtics have been one of the most elite NBA teams in basketball history. And the Boston Bruins had been a successful hockey team in the NHL. They brought the Stanley Cup to Boston by the end of the 1920s and won the NHL championship in the early 1940s. The Bruins were once known for greatness, featuring talented players such as Bobby Orr, Ray Bourque and Derek O'Reilly.

But Boston hasn't always been a great city for winning sports teams. Just look at the Curse of the Bambino and the Red Sox' championship drought: after they won their last World Series in 1918, the Red Sox traded away perhaps the greatest player of all time, Babe Ruth, to their archrivals, the New York Yankees. After his departure, they didn't win anything again for 86 years. The 1986 World Series teased Sox fans with a taste of a championship and a likely end to the Curse. However, a Bill Buckner error and horrible relief pitching led to a late rally, a forced game 7 and World Series rings for the New York Mets. Then, adding to the legend of arguably the greatest sports rivalry ever, the Red Sox battled annually with the Yankees – and finished behind the Bronx Bombers in the AL East division for nine straight years. Each time these two magnificent teams squared off, it was war, from the top of the first to the bottom of the ninth. But it always ended with die-hard Sox fans leaving Fenway Park with their hearts broken, while New



Daniel Noel,
Sports Editor

York fans celebrated another victory.

The New England Patriots also did not used to have that much to cheer about. They were a team that wasn't winning much and they were disappointing their fans all over New England. In 1996, they did make an appearance in Super Bowl XXXI against the

tion, the "Greatest Show on Turf" – the St. Louis Rams. The Rams were heavy favorites and America knew that the Patriots had their work cut out for them. But with determination, a tough attitude and an entrance that froze the Rams, the Patriots did the unthinkable with an Adam Vinatieri field goal in the closing seconds of the fourth quarter to win their first-ever Super Bowl Championship. The following year, they didn't make the playoffs, and the "experts" said that the Patriots were just lucky and wouldn't win anymore.

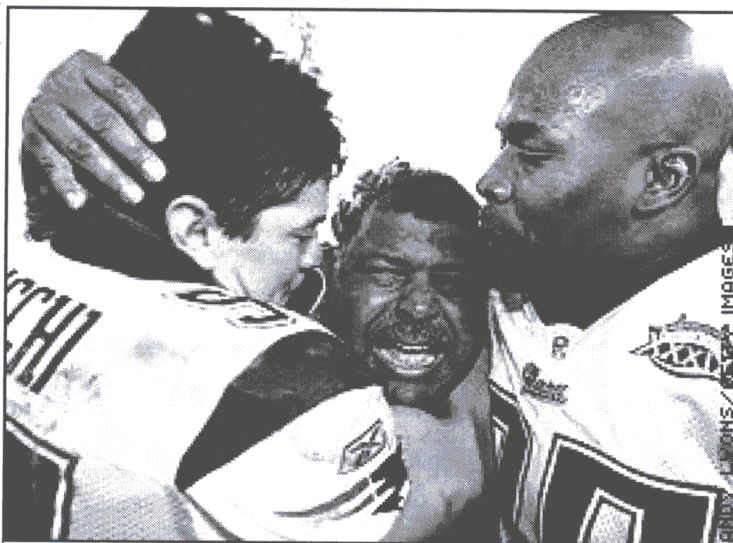


Photo: Espn.com

Recently, Bostonians have had plenty to love.

Green Bay Packers. However, Brett Favre came out victorious against Drew Bledsoe and the Packers dismantled the Patriots, 35-21. Then the Patriots fell out of contention by fighting injuries, losing great players like Curtis Martin and Ben Coates and having unproductive seasons.

That was until 2002, when the city finally remembered what it felt like to win. Bostonians understood the feeling Chicago had when they won six NBA championships and the way Dallas rejoiced when the Cowboys won three out of four Super Bowls. New England fans could actually attend a championship parade, instead of just watching one on ESPN and wishing that their team could throw one of their own. The stage was the Super Bowl; the competi-

The beginning of 2004 would mark history in the making. The New England Patriots again reached the Super Bowl; they were up against a young, up-tempo team, the Carolina Panthers. The Panthers gave the Patriots a scare, but Mr. Clutch, Adam Vinatieri, came through again with the golden toe to beat the Panthers and silence the team's critics. The city of Boston celebrated another championship with a parade that showed the fans who was number one and left them asking, "Can they do it one more time?"

With memories of the Super Bowl as inspiration, the Red Sox, America's favorite team, were ready for another chance to break the Curse, despite beginning their season on bad terms. Red Sox favorite Nomar Garciaparra was playing hurt and an off-season chance to acquire Alex Rodriguez had gone up in smoke. And what team had picked up MLB's best player? The New York Yankees, of course, who were heavily favored to win their 27th World Championship. When the two teams finally reached the American League Championship Series, it was like World War III. The Yankees won the first three games, including a game three blowout at Fenway. Everyone expected

(Continued on page 14)

The "Cursed" Boston Red Sox?

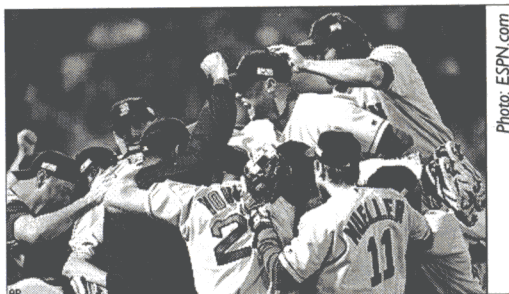
"NINETEEN-EIGHTEEN!"

In the midst of the sold-out crowd in Yankee Stadium, a Yankee fan in the left-field bleachers starts chanting, "1918!" It only takes a minute for the rest of the crowd to catch on. It's not long before the entire stadium is filled with people screaming in unison, "1918! 1918! 1918!" Red Sox fans can only listen helplessly to the Yankee fans jeering. If only the Red Sox could beat the Yankees and win a World Series title... then things would change.

The Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees were two of the oldest teams in Major League Baseball. Aside from that, the two teams were as different as night and day. The New York Yankees were perennial playoff contenders. The New York Yankees were 26-time World Series Champions. The New York Yankees were globally renowned as the most successful team in Major League Baseball history. On the other hand, the Boston Red Sox were the "cursed" team. The Red Sox had not won a single World Series Championship since 1918. And as their archrivals, the Yankees never let Sox fans forget it.

The 2004 baseball season

played out like any other year. The Yankees won the AL East division crown with the Red Sox obtaining a playoff berth through the Wild Card. Many baseball fans have become quite accustomed to this. The New York Yankees always won the AL East, with Boston coming in second every year. Nothing was expected of the Red Sox, even though they were by far the team with the most talent. Even ESPN



chose the injury-plagued Anaheim Angels to knock out the Sox in the first round.

But this didn't stop the Red Sox from sweeping the Angels, three games to none, and advancing to the American League Championship Series against their division rivals. The first three games of the ALCS rein-

forced the idea that the Red Sox were indeed cursed. The team that swept the Angels suddenly looked deflated and overwhelmed by the less talented Yankee ball club. No team in Major League Baseball history had ever overcome a 3-0 deficit in a best of seven series; the Red Sox were not expected to be the first to do so. The "big daddy" Yankees had once again knocked the life out of the Red Sox and their fans. Another season that began with promising hopes and dreams was on the brink of coming to a disappointing end. It was time for the phrase most Sox fans had become used to saying at the end of each disappointing season: "There's always next year." The Red Sox had to win the two remaining games at home, then travel to New York and win the remaining two games. There was no room for error. It was a huge hill to climb and many fans, including myself, planned to watch the Yankees advance to the World Series to represent the American League.

Instead, the relentless Red Sox shocked the whole world, winning the next four games to advance to the

(Continued on page 14)

Celtics In '05

The Boston Celtics are back on top; that is to say, they are on top of the Atlantic Division, ahead of the Philadelphia 76ers and over .500 for the first time in a long time. The play of role players such as Tony Allen has shown opponents that the Celtics are more than just Paul Pierce and Gary Payton. Allen has made the starting lineup, playing well down the stretch.

Since they'd been having success, the Celtics traded Walter McCarty to the Phoenix Suns. Walter, a fan favorite and a spark off the bench, played with the C's for seven years. Off the court, he did a lot of charity work, creating the I Love Music

Foundation (www.ilovemusicfoundation.com).

With the departure of McCarty, the team made a run at a long time former Celtic, forward Antoine Walker. Roughly two years ago, Walker was traded; he left on bad terms with Danny Ainge, head of basketball operations. Ainge did not like Walker's game, which led to the trade; Antoine fired back in a newspaper interview. It seemed unfathomable that Walker would ever return to Boston, but after the trade deadline, he was a member of the Celtics again. Once the deal was made official, the city of Boston expressed major joy, and Walker

Daniel Noel

was so elated that he didn't waste any time making his debut against the Jazz just a few days after the trade.

In other changes, the "Fleet Center" is now history. On July 1st, the sports arena will be renamed TD Banknorth Garden, after the Maine-based bank which took over, signing a 20-year deal. This brings back the old days of the Boston Garden. Hopefully, with the resurrection of the "Gahhh-den," a new generation of Celtics can bring back the old days of success. With other Boston teams recently winning championships, let's allow this to pour onto the hardwood.

(MARK GARTH, Continued from page 1)

living in those cities was very different from Boston, but they allowed him to experience much in terms of culture. Along with his education, these experiences have helped him to deal effectively with the various cultures and nationalities that make up RCC. "He is a great helper, a nice guy who is always willing to help," says Jigssa, a student from Ethiopia.

Prior to working at RCC, he was the Affirmative Action Manager at Wellesley College where he also recruited personnel for the college and taught Writing to first year students. Before that, he worked in Human Resources, doing recruiting and staffing at retail and manufacturing companies. His advice to aspiring academic administrators? "Work hard, learn as much as you can, stay current in your field and don't be afraid of taking risks or failing... Believe in yourself, always," he opines. Mark's personal motto is to "try to be better tomorrow than I was today." He lists his mother as his role model, "because she gave so much of herself to make sure that I was educated." He doesn't set the goal of winning awards each year, but rather aspires

to try to serve students better each year than the year before. "He is an excellent Director," says Joyce, a staff member in the Career and Transfer Services Department, "in helping students with transfers, career opportunities and in trying to choose the right path in search of their goals."

Even though thoughts have been expressed regarding the pres-

**"Work hard,
learn as much as you can,
stay current in your field
and don't be afraid of
taking risks or failing...
Believe in yourself, always."**

ence of the many foreign students on campus, Mark feels there is a place for all persons at the college. He feels the argument that Americans are xenophobic has lost some of its merit.

His greatest challenge in doing his job is to provide a high level of service with sometimes-limited resources. He would someday like to be an senior administrator at the

college and would see about getting all the resources necessary to improve on all the good work already being done. He would also like to look at programs that allow students to take advantage of emerging technologies in the workplace. Outside of work, Mark says he really enjoys quiet time. "Because my work is so student-intensive, I truly appreciate the time to read, relax and, of course, reflect."

"It's not easy being a black man in America," he says when asked of the racism he has encountered. "I'm proud to say that I have raised two young sons who went to college, got good jobs and who do not smoke or do drugs. And they stayed out of that terrible place called prison... [That was] no easy task with so few positive role models. We constantly fight racism, be it covert or overt. I refuse to let anybody deny me those rights my forefathers fought so hard for me to have. I truly recognize, respect and honor those who came before me. That's why education is so critical to our people. Education is power and it's how you use that power that will determine your future and the future of your community."

(GETTING CREDIT, Continued from page 1)

take advantage of the knowledge that you already have? Taking a CLEP exam will allow you to move on to higher-level course work faster.

CLEP can be beneficial to students for a number of reasons. CLEP allows students to place out of a graduation requirement or an introductory course, thereby making it faster to earn a college degree, not to mention not having to sit through the long lectures. By comparing the approximate \$65 cost for the exam to the cost of a 3 credit college-level course, you can see how taking a CLEP exam not only helps you to save time, but money as well.

CLEP exams are accepted for credit by more than 2,900 colleges nationwide. Most colleges usually

grant the same amount of credits to a student that completes a CLEP exam with a satisfactory mark as to a student that successfully completed the equivalent course. CLEP exams mainly cover material that is required in the first two years of college; these exams require college-level knowledge and critical thinking ability. Most of the exams are designed to correspond with one-semester courses, but some may correspond with one-year or two-year courses. The exams are all 90-minute timed exams, administered on computers. They are mostly multiple choice, with the exception of English Composition with Essay and some mathematics exams that include fill-in type questions. Some of the subjects that CLEP offers exams in are English Composition, Biology, Chemistry, College Algebra, French, Spanish, American Government, Human Growth and Development, Introduc-

tory Sociology, and Principles of Marketing, among many others. It is important to note that some colleges won't grant credit for a CLEP exam if you've already attempted a college-level course and failed that specific course, or if you are attempting to take an exam that is closely related with another course that you have already taken.

If you are interested and think that the CLEP program may be right for you, speak to your advisor to fill out an application.

FREE RCC EMAIL

Students are encouraged to obtain an RCC email; administration has begun to use them to communicate important message to students. Visit <http://mail.roxbury.edu> and click on "Sign Up RoxburyMail Now."

(MO' MONKEY, Continued from page 10)

- as opposed to "prisoners of war." An animal is caged because it is too wild and dangerous to be allowed to roam freely in a civilized society. A P.O.W. is held captive to gain an advantage over a respected adversary. Make no mistake, we are being held down for a reason - and not because we are animals. Europe imprisoned Napoleon

because they knew he was too powerful and intelligent to remain free. He threatened the tyrannical hold that the church and nobility had over the peasants of 19th century Europe.

And that's what we are: collateral damage in a war. No, not a race war, but a war for social, economic and political power. And no matter who wins, we lose. In many wars there is a sacrificial lamb, a

group of people who aren't the targets but nonetheless suffer the brunt of the casualties (e.g., the hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqis that are dying for our oil). We are the sacrificial lamb! But what is truly devastating is the way we continue to lead each other to the slaughterhouse.

I am not proposing a cure to all of our problems, just a vaccine for one of the symptoms.

(RALLY, Continued from page 6)

organization, VFP had no official opinion about the legality of instituting a draft, mainly because its members couldn't seem to develop a consensus. But Dathe believed that the draft will and should be reinstated, as long as everybody has an equal chance of being summoned for military service. "And I do mean everybody," Dathe strongly emphasized. "That includes [President George W.] Bush's two daughters, and the sons

and daughters of everybody in Congress."

But while the possibility of renewing the draft looms over Congress, the speakers denounced RCC's (and all state college's) role in sacrificing America's children to an unworthy cause. They cited a law that stipulates that all state and federally funded colleges and universities are obligated to allow recruits from the Armed Forces to solicit students right on campus.

VFP believe the war in Iraq is one that can't be won. They feel that America's plan to install a new government in Iraq is unfeasible and that the Iraqi people will continue to resist the US. Their message was that a Muslim country would never allow a Christian nation to dictate their affairs. Dathe concluded, "We're leaving [Iraq], but the only question is: How many young men and women will come back in caskets before we do?"

("CURSED?," Continued from page 12)

World Series.

I never believed that the Red Sox were cursed. Many Major League ball clubs have been less fortunate than the Sox, but they don't have to hear about how their team is made up of underachievers. In more than 40 years of existence, the Anaheim Angels have only won one World Series title. The Brooklyn/Los Angeles Dodgers have won five World Series in their long past - just like the Red Sox before the 2004 season - but they are considered to be a very successful franchise. Boston has such a long history that started with so much success. The standard was set long ago and to this day they are obligated to try to win it all every year like the Yankees. That's the only way to meet expectations.

As of today, the Boston Red Sox are the World Series Champions of 1903, 1912, 1915, 1916, 1918 and 2004. That's six, and I believe more are to come. For now, at least, Red Sox fans can sit back and relax - they deserve to be proud, as the fans of the World Champion Red Sox.

(BOSTON, Continued from page 11)

the Yankees to be the ALCS champions, because no baseball team in history had ever come back from a 0-3 deficit to take the series. No one except for the players and the Fenway Faithful believed that the Sox could do it. With David Ortiz coming through with key hits in the clutch and Curt Schilling pitching a game with a bloody ankle, the Red Sox did the unthinkable: they beat the Yankees in four straight games to make it to the World Series, where they swept the St. Louis Cardinals. Not only did they bring home the World Series trophy, but they also brought happiness to the generations of Red Sox fans who suffered through the agony of watching the Red Sox lose each year.

2005 has also been a great year for Boston fans. Since the beginning of the season, the Patriots had been considered a dynasty. They won 22 consecutive games, dating back to the 2003-2004 season, before losing to a great Pittsburgh Steelers

team. In the playoffs, the Pats were the favorites despite facing the high-powered Indianapolis Colts and the NFL's most valuable player, Peyton Manning, and the Pittsburgh Steelers, led by stellar rookie Ben Roethlisberger. The Patriots proceeded to hold the Colts to only a field goal. They shut down the Steelers, forcing Roethlisberger to throw numerous interceptions. Then they beat the Philadelphia Eagles and brought home the Vince Lombardi trophy. Now the Patriots are a dynasty, one of history's greatest teams, like the Cowboys of the 1990s and the Steelers of the 1970s.

Now it is time for the city to embrace its winning ways. Even the Celtics are in first place, headed for the playoffs. For a long time, Boston's sports teams were losers, but that has changed. It is time for all of us from Beantown to hold our heads up high and be proud of how well our teams are doing.

Let the Light of Your Words Shine in the Poetry Corner

Compiled by Manu A. Carpenter, AKA Level

"Poetry is the art of rhythmical composition, written or spoken, for exciting pleasure by beautiful, imaginative, or elevated thoughts."

This poetry corner was created by the students and for the students,
Whether you just love the art of poetry or you're a poet or a poetess.

A Precious Stone Nolisha Greer

A woman is a precious piece of stone,
Something that is pretty to look at and
Now because of you she's hard to touch.
She was once considered a treasure,
Now you call her a bitch.
What you failed to protect,
What you failed to adhere,
You failed,
Why blame me for your insecurities?
Why must I suffer
Because you can't come to terms
That you need to be a man
Whether you had one in your life or not?
This is what should give you strength,
This is what should give you peace,
This is what should give you



Manu Carpenter,
Poetry Editor

The knowledge to help me
Help you so that we can help each other.
I didn't have a mom,
But now I know how to raise our child,
Just do the opposite of wrong.
I don't even blame our parents,
I feel sorry for them,
But keep in mind I am a precious stone
That can't be broken
With your deceit and lies.
I will rise because I am precious,
And this means I may be beautiful to look at
But I am strong enough to stand up
To anything you can bring
Because I'm also a stone,
So bring it or step aside
And let this precious stone rise.

If there is anyone who wants to be a part of
Gateway Gazette's Poetry Corner, email
Gods_chosen_soulja@roxbury.edu.
Until next time, stay blessed and
Let the Light of Your Words Shine!

"ASK TRACY" Column

Do you have a dilemma at home?
Relationship issues? Are you depressed or
stressed? Need someone to talk to, or just
have a question?

Coming to the next issue of
Gateway Gazette...

To ask Tracy questions, email her at
tracy@roxbury.edu. Names and email ad-
dresses will not be published. Your
response is greatly appreciated and will be
posted in the next issue of *Gateway Gazette*.
You can find "Ask Tracy" boxes at select
campus locations (like in the library), too.

-Tracy Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't forget the
TALENT SHOW...

-THE EVENT OF THE YEAR-

For tickets, information or to participate,
call SGA at 617-427-0060 x5003, or visit
room 4-319 on Tuesdays or Thursdays
from 11:30—12:30.

(See page 2 for more details.)

Summer Academic Enrichment Program

*"It was a great experience. One of the bene-
fits was that you were able to develop bonds
with RCC students that you may otherwise
not have met."* - Michelle, student

Students are raving about the SAEP at
Northeastern University!

If you're planning to transfer to NU, why
not sign up for free courses, get summer
credits and earn a chance at a \$10,000
scholarship? For more information, call
617-427-0060 x5458. The application
deadline is April 15th.

Career & Transfer Services—Spring 2005 Activities

All activities are held during Activity Block, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, unless otherwise noted.

Each of the activities qualifies as an "outside activity" for College Survival Seminar!

DATE	TOPIC	LOCATION
<i>March 2005</i>		
Monday 03/21	UMASS Boston On-the-Spot Admissions***	207 Academic
Tuesday 03/22	Choosing a Career and College Major	The Library
Wednesday 03/23	Bay State College Information Table	Academic Lobby
Wednesday 03/23	Northeastern University On-the-Spot Admissions***	207 Academic
Thursday 03/24	Joint Admissions & Cross Registration Info Session	129 Academic
Monday 03/28	UMASS Amherst & UMASS Lowell Information Tables	Academic Lobby
Tuesday 03/29	Simmons College Info Session for RCC Women Students	129 Academic
Tuesday 03/29	Writing an Effective Resume & Cover Letter	The Library
Tuesday 03/29	Finding Summer Internships	132 Academic
Wednesday 03/30	Presentation with the CEO of Blue Cross/Blue Shield	<i>*Stay Tuned*</i>
Thursday 03/31	Summer Academic Enrichment Program Open House	129 Academic
<i>April 2005</i>		
Monday 04/04	Nursing & Allied Health On-Campus Recruitment 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Student Center Room 200
Monday 04/11	On-Campus Recruitment – All Majors 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Student Center Room 200
Tuesday 04/12	Transferring to a 4-year School Workshop	129 Academic
Thursday 04/14	Summer Academic Enrichment Program Open House	129 Academic
Tuesday 04/19	Job Search Strategies	The Library
Tuesday 04/19	Joint Admissions & Cross Registration Info Session	129 Academic
Thursday 04/21	Career & Transfer Planning for the 2005 Graduate	129 Academic
Tuesday 04/26	Searching for Summer Jobs	The Library
Tuesday 04/26	Finding Summer and Fall Internships	132 Academic

*****See Mr. Mark A. Garth, Room 207P Academic Building to set up an appointment for On-the-Spot-Admissions. You must have a completed application, an essay, letters of recommendation (if required), an official copy of your transcript and the application fee or fee waiver. No On-the-Spot Admissions for students wishing to enter the Nursing, Pharmacy or Physical Therapy Programs. Fee waivers are available in Room 207P Academic Building.**